

AUG 2014

CityScene

NORMANDY PARK



There goes summer – *Here comes fall!*

Normandy Park resident Marion Yoshino leaves the beach after a long hot summer here in Normandy Park. Photo courtesy of Chris Gaddis.

GET INVOLVED
Mayor West takes
citizens to task

ENVIRONMENT
New committee
takes a balanced
approach

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Positive in the Park – Part 2

CALLING ALL POSITIVE PEOPLE WITH POSITIVE SOLUTIONS! Please join us at the upcoming Normandy Park City Council meetings. Here's why:



Susan West
Mayor

You really can make a difference

One community member *can* make a difference with proactive and positive solutions. Here's an example: two years ago, a resident asked

the Council to start an Economic Development Committee (EDC) to improve communication and community involvement in our city's most significant economic issues. The Council agreed and 86 meetings later, this ambitious and enthusiastic group has made a tremendous difference – organizing festivals, business open houses and projects to build positive partnerships, showcase our community, promote shopping opportunities, and boost spirit. They're currently planning the 3rd annual Zombie Fest, the 2nd annual tree lighting ceremony, additional Winterfest activities, and much more.

Please consider joining the EDC! We have 76 members including residents, members of the business community and city staff. We meet on Wednesdays at the Normandy Park City Hall from 5:15 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. If you'd like to join, but can't make the meetings, no problem. We can add you to the EDC email list to include you in our conversations. Contact me via email susan.west@ci.normandy-park.wa.us or call 206-818-6945.

Get your voice heard

Each City Council meeting on the second (and sometimes the fourth) Tuesday of the month offers two public comment periods and periodically a public hearing. The public comment periods are held at the beginning and the end of the meetings. The last one gives community members a great opportunity to provide feedback and ideas for issues the Council discussed during the meeting. Each community member is given three minutes to speak. We have a timer, so you don't have to worry about keeping an eye on your watch!

Stay up to date on issues

Isn't it amazing how much a story can change as it goes from person to person to person, and so on? So, how about attending a City Council meeting instead, to get city-related information directly from the source? The City Council speaks with one voice and does not have a spokesperson, so I highly recommend that you attend the meetings to receive accurate information about Council discussions and decisions, city staff presentations, and public comment.

Build partnerships

Attending City Council meetings, also gives community members the opportunity to see positive team building efforts. Recently, the City Council held joint meetings with the Planning Commission, Arts Commission, Park Commission, Civil Service Commission, and EDC. These meetings are quite different than the traditional Council meetings. At joint meetings, we sit around an oval shaped table and have a round robin style discussion. It's casual, conversational, proactive, and I look forward to them continuing!

Mark your calendar!

To keep up to date on the Council schedule, please sign up for e-alerts on the city's website: www.normandyparkwa.gov. The e-alerts provide you with Council meeting schedules, agendas and information about other City related meetings and events. City Council agendas are also posted on the city website and the bulletin board at QFC.

Here are upcoming meeting dates and tentative topics:

Tuesday, August 12th: City Hall Building OSHA Update, Approve Commission Work Plans.

Tuesday, September 9th: Storm Water Grant Program Funding Agreement, Shoreline Master Program (SMP) Final Consideration.

Tuesday, September 23rd: Task Force Preliminary Selection.

Tuesday, October 14th: City Manager Presents 2015 Budget Message, Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan, Task Force Final Selection.

Tuesday, October 28th: 2015 Budget Presentations from Departments.

What if I can't attend the meetings?

Don't worry! Minutes are taken at the City Council meetings and audio recordings are made available on the city website. In the future, I hope the City Council meetings will be videotaped and televised on the city's public access channel. This will give community members a full picture of what is happening in the meetings.

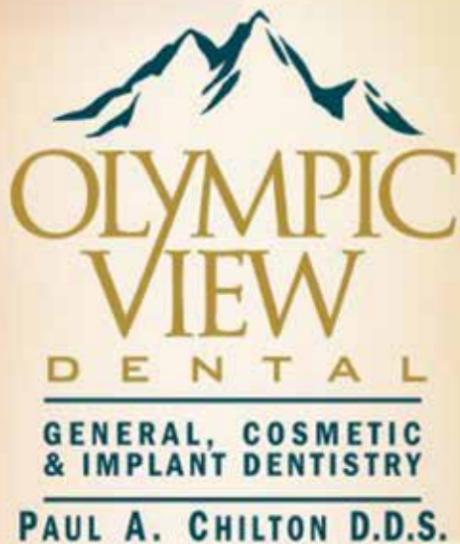
See you at the next City Council meeting!



Facility Planning Task Force

Do you have a passion for Normandy Park's future, reaching out to neighbors for their input, and sharing your skills and expertise in analyzing the data?

The City Council is now accepting applications for a FACILITY PLANNING TASK FORCE. Information is available on the city website or contact city hall to find out more. 206-248-7603



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Glenn Akramoff
City Manager

IT HAS STARTED OUT TO BE THE BEST SUMMER we have seen in many years here in the northwest. The 4th of July parade had spectacular weather and a fantastic turnout. As I was walking down the parade route to the Cove for a hotdog, a family from another city stopped my wife and I. They have not attended the parade before and were surprised that such community spirit existed anymore. I replied this is Normandy Park every day. It is why everyone loves to be here and are always so involved in what is occurring within the city.

On July 8th, I celebrated my one year anniversary as the City Manager for Normandy Park. As I have been told, once you reach a year you're not new anymore. I wanted to take this opportunity to highlight what I feel are important accomplishments for the last year for the City. It has been a team effort with City Council, staff and most importantly the Community to get things moving in a positive direction. Of course, we have much more to accomplish together.

Accomplishments include:

- Partnerships—Each of these provide alternatives and increase service options to the community at similar or less cost
- Dispatch services with the Port of Seattle (went live on July 1st)
- Fleet maintenance services with Highline School District
- Joint facility use agreement with Highline School District, SeaTac, Burien and Des Moines
- Maintenance service agreement with the City of Des Moines
- South Correctional Entity (SCORE) jail contract
- **Financial improvements**
- The negative outlook was removed from our bond rating
- The ending fund balance more than doubled from 2012 to 2013
- The city has seen an increase in sales tax revenue
- In April, the city saw a record in home sales with 14 (this is a normal good market quarter)
- Clean audit
- Increase in grant funds

Customer Service improvements

- Communication Plan development and ongoing implementation
- Increased staff with the addition of an Associate Planner, Engineer and Maintenance Supervisor who have increased the service level within the city functions
- Quicker customer response for permits and concerns

Operation improvements

- Improved technology function with a new server
- Increased phone, cell and radio service
- A full fleet maintenance program
- Improved maintenance response for streets, parks and storm water
- Identification of system improvements that are hindering performance and effectiveness
- New receipting system to decrease redundancy
- Sylvester Road overlay
- Completion of tile project at City Hall Park play area
- Employee wellness program
- Increased employee morale
- City events (Zombie Fest, Winterfest, business outreach)
- Staff involvement in local and regional committees

Efforts that are underway and continue in 2015 and beyond include:

- An updated budget process
- Shoreline Master Program update
- Comprehensive Plan update
- Moving the Manhattan Village subarea from planning to implementation to include marketing and use of the Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) grant funding that is available
- Strategic planning efforts
- Continued improvement of systems including city hall repair and Task Force development
- Process improvements for effectiveness and predictability

The City Council is in the process of forming a Task Force to look at the City Hall issue in depth and provide a recommendation to the Council on how the city should proceed. The Council is in the process of developing a charter and objectives for the Task Force. The final selection process for the Task Force is expected to occur at the September 23rd Council meeting. If you are interested in being a part of this effort, please contact me or one of your Council Members.

We have some tough issues that we will face in the future and it is in those times that we must come together with solutions as we always have. Normandy Park has a history of being the underdog and coming back from sure defeat. We can look all the way back to its beginning but only need to look back to 2012 for examples. I feel honored to live and work here. And as with each of you, I want to do my part to assure the community's success. Drop by City Hall, give me a call, or send me an email with your ideas on keeping Normandy Park Great!

CITY DIRECTORY

City Hall

801 SW 174th Street
Normandy Park WA 98166

City Hall Main Line
206-248-7603

Police Non-Emergency
206-248-7600

City Hall Hours

7:00am – 5:30pm
Monday through Thursday

City Administration

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206-248-8246

Finance Director
206-248-8251

City Clerk
206-248-8248

Accounting Specialist
206-248-8247

Senior Planner
206-248-8249

Associate Planner
206-248-8260

Public Works Operations
206-248-8269

Public Works Engineer
206-248-8256

Recreation/Facility
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206-248-7600

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Thursday. Appointment
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Lemon Lemony Brownies



FOR THE BROWNIE

1/2 cup unsalted butter, softened
3/4 cup flour
2 eggs, large
2 tablespoons lemon zest
2 tablespoons lemon juice
3/4 cup granulated sugar
1/4 teaspoon sea salt

FOR THE TART LEMON GLAZE

4 tablespoons lemon juice
8 teaspoons lemon zest
1 cup icing sugar

- 1 Preheat the oven to 350 degrees.
- 2 Grease an 8x8 inch baking dish with butter and set aside.
- 3 Zest and juice two lemons and set aside.
- 4 In the bowl of an electric mixture fitted with the paddle attachment, beat the flour, sugar, salt, and softened butter until combined.
- 5 In a separate bowl, whisk together the eggs, lemon zest, and lemon juice until combined.
- 6 Pour it into the flour mixture and beat for 2 mins at medium speed until smooth and creamy.
- 7 Pour into baking dish and bake for 23-25 mins, should turn golden around the edges.
- 8 Allow to cool completely before glazing. Do not overbake, or the bars will dry.
- 9 Filter the powdered sugar and whisk with lemon zest and juice.
- 10 Spread the glaze over the brownies with a rubber spatula and let glaze set.
- 11 Cut into bars and serve. Enjoy!

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CAN YOU THINK OF A MORE BEAUTIFUL TIME AND PLACE than summer in Western Washington? I think the jewel in the crown of the Puget Sound area is our City of Normandy Park. Now that summer is here lots of folks are walking, jogging and enjoying the beauty of our "Park" city. I also hear comments about houses that appear to be below "community standards." Although uncut grass and overgrown lawns may be unsightly, it does not rise to the level of a zoning code violation, nor is it an issue for our city government unless it prohibits access for fire or EMS personnel. However, there are unsightly conditions that do violate our city ordinances. It's easy for a homeowner to overlook his or her old car stored in the front yard setback, as they say, "one man's trash is another man's treasure."

Last winter's "Meet the Manager" event became somewhat of a town

hall meeting in which quite a few folks brought up a desire for a renewed effort of a code enforcement program. Step one is information through a Public Education and Support Campaign. Most homeowners will move that old junker once they learn it's not allowed in the front yard setback. Step two will be Notification of Noncompliance and Enforcement. The goal is to maintain property values and the beauty of our city while placing a minimum burden on owners of shabby properties. Watch for information on our city website and this City Scene publication. Some of the most common violations are garbage and debris, cut trees in critical areas and buffers, cars and business signs. Let's all work together to keep our city beautiful. Enjoy the summer in Normandy Park.

Council Member
Tom Munslow

From the Publisher



Peter Philips
Publisher

RAIN IS THUNDERING AGAINST MY WINDOW as I write this column. After what seems like forever of bright blue sky, my lawn, my roses and my vegetables are drinking in this glorious summer downpour.

Though we are only about half way through our magnificent Puget Sound summer, this rain makes my thoughts turn to autumn: the changing leaves and school kids walking to and from Marvista Elementary School.

Fall brings with it a resumption of the communal life that surrounds the 'back-to-school' dynamic that comes after Labor Day. Summer barbecues and vacations at the lake give way to PTA meetings, little league games and school plays.

We are fortunate in Normandy Park to have a vibrant and engaged community that nurtures this communal life.

I urge you to participate in Zombie Fest on September 27th and Winterfest in early December ...and the remaining Music in the Park Sunday evening concerts at Marvista

Park. These are just a sampling of the events your community puts on—through the hard work of our engaged citizenry. These volunteer driven initiatives enhance our community, and the quality of living in it.

Normandy Park City Scene magazine continues to thrive, thanks to the support of our local retail advertisers. Advertising in Normandy Park City Scene magazine is a demonstration of a commitment to our community. Make sure our advertisers know you recognize this commitment by making a point of 'shopping in the Park', and be sure you tell those retailers how much you appreciate their support of *Normandy Park City Scene* magazine.

And I appreciate your support as well. This issue marks our second full year of publication. It continues to be an incredibly gratifying experience. Thank you for the many kind emails I've received. Keep up the suggestions and recommendations for making the magazine even better!

Peter Philips
Publisher

CONTACT YOUR CITY COUNCIL



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Susan West
206-818-6945
Susan.West@ci.normandy-park.wa.us

MONTHLY MEETING CALENDAR

Council Meeting

2nd Tuesday, 7pm

Council Study Session (if necessary)

4th Tuesday, 7pm

Arts Commission

1st Tuesday, 7pm

Metropolitan Parks District

2nd Tuesday, 7pm

Civil Service

3rd Tuesday, Noon

Park Commission

3rd Wednesday, 7pm

Planning Commission

3rd Thursday, 7pm



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KCD Assists Landowners Living on the Edge

The steep bluffs, ravines and beautiful shorelines of Normandy Park provide spectacular views of the Olympics and Puget Sound, but they're also prone to erosion and landslides.

Normandy Park has approximately 3.5 miles of marine shorelines, about a mile of which has been "armored" with riprap and bulkheads. The city's shoreline also includes stretches of steep, eroding "feeder bluffs" that provide sand and gravel that replenishes beaches and provides fish habitat critical for maintaining the health of Puget Sound.

Over the past eight years, the King Conservation District has hosted a series of 'Where the Water Begins' workshops to inform shoreline and bluff landowners about ecological, geological and vegetation management issues. Nearly 100 people attended this year's workshops at Discovery Park and on Vashon Island.

Workshop topics included maintaining nearshore and marine riparian zone ecosystems, recognizing and minimizing geologic hazards, using native vegetation to reduce erosion, and using native vegetation to improve fish and wildlife habitat.

Landowners learned about the ways that water and geology interact and strategies for reducing erosion and promoting slope stability. They also learned that trees and native plants along shorelines and bluffs help hold slopes in place and contribute to healthy beach habitats. At each workshop, landowners requested follow-up technical assistance to develop plans to address natural resource management challenges on their properties.

Established in 1949, the King Conservation District is an independent, non-regulatory public agency that assists landowners with protecting and enhancing natural resources. If you have questions about protecting bluff and shoreline properties, contact Brandy Reed at 425-282-1924. For information about other programs available through the King Conservation District go to: www.kingcd.org.

Article and photo provided by King Conservation District.



Tree Selection

Selecting a tree species for a particular site and a particular purpose is an important decision to maximize one's enjoyment from the tree and ensure long-term tree health. All tree species have highly preferred or essential environmental requirements to mature and flourish, such as soil conditions, sunlight exposure, growing space, and water. If properly matched to its preferences, a tree remains healthy and grows into an asset, rather than a liability for the owner, maintenance is reduced, and future tree removal can be avoided.

The intended purpose for planting a tree is a key consideration. Is the intended purpose for shade, privacy, to screen or perhaps to feature color, shape and texture in a yard? Will the tree require frequent pruning, thinning or shaping to remain healthy and attractive and is the owner prepared to take care of the maintenance? How will the tree selection add to or interrupt the view(s)?

One of the most important considerations for tree selection is growing space, which can be underestimated. Both the area above and below ground must be taken into consideration to allow the natural branch spread, trunk diameter and root volume, without interfering with surrounding structures and line of sight. Many trees can grow to more than 100 feet in height and with a root system that extends well beyond the diameter of the farthest-reaching branches. A root system constrained by driveways, sidewalks, walls, etc., will find a way to grow around, under or through these structures, causing damage and jeopardizing the tree's health. A tree's canopy can grow into utility lines and over roofs and obscure desired views.

An unfortunate practice, often as a result of poorly planned tree selection or site selection, is tree topping. Tree topping is the indiscriminate cutting of tree limbs to stubs or lateral branches, one assumes to attain a



desired height. It is not a practice endorsed by arboriculture. Several good reasons why not to top a tree:

- Topping could potentially kill the tree through starvation
- Topping leads to tree decay caused by fungus and pathogens that work their way down through the tree
- Topping can lead to sunburn from sudden exposure to higher levels of sun and heat, damaging tissue beneath the bark
- Topping results in multiple, weakly attached, growing shoots (growing as much as 20 feet a year)
- Topping makes the tree ugly. A tree that has been topped will never regain its natural form
- Topping is expensive:
 - Increased maintenance and, potentially, tree removal if the tree dies
 - Increased risk of branch failure and potential damage

A much better option to consider is selective thinning and cleaning of dead or weak branches.

Council takes a balanced environmental approach

Your City Council and City Manager made a bold and innovative move this year by combining the functions of the Public Works and Code Review Committees into the newly named Environmental Issues Committee. This Committee will address the City's issues in Code Review, Public Works, Facilities, and Land Use. Committees are a way for a subgroup of three Councilmembers and assigned staff to dive deeper into issue areas in monthly meetings, and bring researched and vetted recommendations to the full Council. Environmental Issues Committee members for 2014-2015 are Mayor Pro Tem Doug Osterman (Committee Chair), Council Members Stacia Jenkins and Shawn McEvoy, City Manager Glenn Akramoff, Senior Planner Chad Tibbits and Engineer Maryanne Zukowski.

The Environmental Issues Committee was created to allow Council and staff to integrate the policies and goals for public

infrastructure and private building codes with the needs of a sustainable natural environment. Committee Chair Osterman describes, "Sound community development requires integration of public infrastructure - roads, stormwater and parks for example—with environmental protection and restoration. We hope that the new balanced approach to working with the community will be cost effective and improve service delivery to residents.

At the initial meetings this year the Environment Issues Committee established the following:

Environmental Issues Committee

Mission: To provide policy direction and recommendations to staff, Council, and Commissions on the integrated issues of Code Review, Public Works, Facilities and Land Use, with the goal to preserve, protect, and enhance the natural and built environment of Normandy Park.

Goals:

1. To demonstrate Normandy Park's leadership in comprehensive, integrated policies that support a healthy balance for residential, commercial and natural environments.
2. Comprehensive code review and development that is outcome-driven, rather than reactive, prescriptive and corrective.
3. A Shoreline Master Plan that is a model for preservation and restoration of Puget Sound.
4. Promote regional collaboration and vision to better achieve local environmental, economic, and funding goals.
5. Demonstrate support for regional county and state environmental goals including those for GHG emission reductions, water and air quality standards, and solid waste management.
6. Seek innovative programs, policies and incentives to promote resource responsible construction practices.

Topics scheduled for this year include the Shoreline Master Plan, forest/tree management, integrated pest management, WRIA 9 ILA renewal, and green building/remodel resources and incentives. The Environmental Issues Committee is also seeking input from residents with interests, ideas, and special expertise in relevant topics. The Committee structure provides opportunities for this input and additional research before bringing issues to the City Council for discussion. Those interested in bringing a topic to the Environmental Issues Committee should contact City Manager Glenn Akramoff at Glenna@ci.normandy-park.wa.us.

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Volunteers of all ages helped pull ivy in Walker Preserve in fall 2013. Come pitch in with your neighbors, and bring a friend!

Ivy Removal with Neighbors and Friends

Ivy, also known as English ivy, is a fast-growing vine that stays green year-round. Originally from England, it was planted in landscapes all around Highline and the greater Puget Sound area. We have since discovered its destructive nature. Ivy aggressively climbs up, growing thick stems that destroy trees, fences, and buildings. Its vines will destroy any native plant they grow around, and provide the perfect cover for rats, which burrow underneath it.

Walker Preserve, a protected area in Normandy Park, is being rescued from English ivy by a small group of dedicated, hard-working volunteers. Since 2008, people have been pulling ivy away from trees and out of the ground, and the native plants have come bouncing back! In the spring, the Pacific bleedingheart and trilliums bloom, and now, you can graze on ripe salmonberries and red huckleberries throughout the park.

We still need to finish removing ivy from a few trees and the forest floor in the last few remaining ivy infestations in Walker Preserve. Mark your calendars for the fall work parties—we start in the fall when the ground is moist and soft, when ivy roots come out of the ground easiest, and do the least amount of damage to the spring wildflowers waiting beneath.

Fall and winter work parties will be on Saturday mornings from 9:30 until noon, on September 20, October 18, November 8, December 6, and January 10. Meet inside the entrance of Walker Preserve at 2nd Ave SW & SW 168th St, through the gate, down the hill near the stream. To sign up or get more information, contact the Miller-Walker Basin Steward, Elissa Ostergaard, at 206-477-4792 or elissa.ostergaard@kingcounty.gov.

Adventurous Volunteers Needed for Salmon Surveys with CSI: Highline

How many adult salmon return to Miller and Walker Creeks in Burien, Normandy Park, and SeaTac each year? Knowing adult salmon numbers and what happens to them once they enter the stream serve as “vital signs” for our streams. By being part of our Community Salmon Investigation (CSI) for Highline team, you can help us learn more about this community resource.

Anyone interested in hiking in the streams every week or two from October through January is encouraged to sign up to learn more at the training on October 2nd! Beginning in mid-October and continuing until late December or into January, we need two volunteers to visit Miller and Walker Creeks each day at several locations to look for fish. We need enough volunteers to staff every day of the week because only a sustained, daily survey will provide us the accurate information we need to understand stream health.

This is an exciting and unusual opportunity to see parts of your community that are normally off-limits. You will get closer to one of the most interesting animals of America—the Pacific salmon. You will be part of an important community effort to better understand how well we’re doing taking care of our lands and waters. And, of course, you’ll get to cut open dead (salmon) bodies, almost like the CSI teams you watch on TV!

Everyone who is interested in being on a team or learning more is invited to attend a free training:

When: Thursday, October 2, 2014, 4:30–6:30 pm

Where: Normandy Park City Hall

To sign up, contact Elissa Ostergaard, Miller-Walker Basin Steward, at elissa.ostergaard@kingcounty.gov or 206-477-4792.



Volunteers wear hip waders, safety vests, and use a walking stick as they survey for salmon in fall 2013 in Miller Creek.

Stormwater Improvement Projects for the Miller-Walker Basin

Come learn more about how we're working to improve our local streams!

In January, the Miller-Walker Basin Partners – Normandy Park, Burien, SeaTac, the Port of Seattle and King County—began a stormwater retrofit analysis to identify, evaluate and select stormwater projects to help clean up our local waterways and reduce flooding and erosion. The analysis is funded by Washington State Department of Ecology grant through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The future stormwater retrofit projects, located on public property, will manage the flow of stormwater and help clean polluted runoff. A variety of stormwater management strategies are being considered, including green stormwater infrastructure, such as permeable pavement and rain gardens, which absorb and filter rainwater with plants and soil. More traditional methods, like underground vaults, could also be used to collect stormwater and release it more slowly.

October will be the third in the series of three public meetings. The first meetings in the spring were to identify potential projects and the second meetings this summer were for evaluating and ranking projects. Please join us this fall to learn more and share your thoughts on the project sites for potential design and construction. The Basin Partners are incorporating community feedback from our spring and summer meetings and evaluating the feasibility of identified stormwater project sites. Opportunities for coordination and cost savings with other planned bike and pedestrian improvement projects will be our highest priorities. The top three projects will be eligible to apply for additional grant funding for final design and construction after 2014.

For more information, contact Elissa Ostergaard, Miller-Walker Basin Steward, at 206-477-4792 or elissa.ostergaard@kingcounty.gov

PUBLIC MEETINGS
6:30 P.M.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 27TH
Normandy Park Rec. Center
801 SW 174th Street
Normandy Park, WA

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH
Burien Community Center
14700 6th Avenue SW
Burien, WA

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT

Did you know that anything washed or dumped into our local storm drains doesn't receive water treatment of any kind? Petroleum, pesticides, pet waste and car soap all make their way directly into nearby creeks, streams or lakes, then into Puget Sound.

Protecting and improving the health of our waterways starts with education and awareness, so in partnership with the Miller and Walker Creek Stewardship program, Eagle Scout Nathan Tallar and his team of volunteer Boy Scouts from Troop 398 stenciled educational messages on 260 storm drains in Normandy Park. These markers serve as a reminder that pollutants entering storm drains in our city don't just disappear—they go into the very waters we use recreationally and commercially.

Here's how you can help keep our water safe and clean by preventing pollution at its source:

- Take your car to a commercial car wash, or wash it on a grassy area so the ground can filter the soapy water naturally
- Scoop up after your pet
- Use less fertilizer and pesticides
- Properly dispose of hazardous waste
- Report surface water pollution and spills



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Port of Seattle Dispatch

On July 1st at noon, the Port of Seattle Dispatch Center began answering 911 calls for the City of Normandy Park and took over Law Enforcement Dispatch service for the Normandy Park Police Department. The Normandy Park Police Department has used the Fife Police Dispatch Center since 2001. The change happened because Fife Police Dispatch will eventually become part of South Sound 911, and we needed to find another dispatch center before that happened. The citizens and visitors of Normandy Park should not see an adverse impact because of the switchover; in fact, they should see improved service from having an improved radio system. The switch for the Police Department means we will finally be on the 800 MHz radio system. This will increase interoperability with surrounding jurisdictions and officer safety. With donations from our Coalition partners, we have been able to make this switch with very little impact to our budget.

Citizens and visitors may see an increased number of Port of Seattle Police patrol cars in their neighborhoods. Since we will be sharing the broadcast channel with Port of Seattle, they will send officers as backup to us if we need more assistance than what we have on duty. Port of Seattle Officers have begun to familiarize themselves with the sometimes confusing roads of Normandy Park.

If you have any questions about our new relationship with the Port of Seattle feel free to contact me at chrisg@ci.normandy-park.wa.us or 206-248-7600. The phone numbers used to reach the police department will not change.

Port of Seattle Statement

Like many small police departments around the country, the City of Normandy Park Police Department has had to do our best with very limited resources. During my 13-year career with the police department, we've worked with a very sub-optimal radio system. Officers and Dispatchers alike struggled to hear basic radio traffic. It was not unusual for officers to not be heard when calling into or out of service. They could not hear or be heard over the radio during many traffic stops and domestic violence situations. We even experienced radio transmission issues during our initial response to what turned out to be a homicide investigation.

Over the years, there had been discussion about switching to a different system that would greatly improve radio traffic, but nothing ever materialized. At least not until some recent changes to the Police Department and the City of Normandy Park.

In 2012, a new Chief of Police was hired from within, one with intimate first-hand knowledge about the safety issues surrounding the sub-standard radio system. In

2013, a new City Manager was hired, and supported the Chief's initiative to resolve an issue that was an accident waiting to happen. Together with the support of the City Council, they were able to effect an important change and milestone for the City of Normandy Park.

On July 1st 2014, officers of the Normandy Park Police Department and their loved ones breathed a collective sigh of relief. For the first time in my career, I was able to clearly and reliably communicate with dispatch and other officers.

My wife and I send our heartfelt thanks to the Chief of Police, City Manager, and City Council for supporting this very important initiative. My wife and I also thank the citizens of the City of Normandy Park, for showing us such great support, as we try to do our best to keep Normandy Park a healthy and safe place to live, work, and visit.

Not only are we all safer, we can also provide an even better service to our community. Thank you!

—NP Officer



Keep up on what is happening in the Police Department—follow the Chief on Facebook! www.facebook.com/npchief

Stopping Distance

The following graph is an example of how important it is to follow the speed limit. As we all know, the faster we travel, the longer it takes us to stop. According to the chart, if you are driving in a school zone at the speed limit of 20 mph, you will travel at least 44 feet after you notice a reason to stop. The distance is equal to more than four (4) Ford F-150's. It will take you at least the length of two more Ford F-150's before you come to a complete stop. There are enough things for us to worry about when driving, don't make your speed another one. Follow the speed limit and help make you and everyone else in Normandy Park safer.

MPH	Ft/Sec.	Reaction Time in ft.	Stopping Distance in ft.	Total Stopping Distance in ft.
10	14.7	22	5	27
20	29.3	44	19	63
25	36	55	30	85
30	44	66	43	109
40	58.7	88	76	164



Noise Ordinance Violations

Many residents of Normandy Park have asked questions about the hours for the City's noise ordinance. I have listed answers to a few of the more common questions. You can find out more about our noise ordinance and all the other Municipal Codes by visiting the City's website at www.normandyparkwa.gov and clicking the link for the Normandy Park Municipal Code on the main page.

Residential Noise—General. The following categories of noise commonly heard in residential neighborhoods are prohibited after certain hours as shown:

Single Event. Any noise disturbance produced from an event or activity that may occur from time to time, such as, but not limited to, a private house party or barbecue, is prohibited after 10:00 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and after midnight on Friday, Saturday and the day before a holiday.

Repetitive Noise. Any noise disturbance that occurs on a repetitive basis once a week or more, such as, but not limited to, use of power garden equipment or frequent or repeated starting or testing of internal combustion engines, is prohibited after 9:00 p.m. on any day of the week.

Community Events. Any noise disturbance produced from a community event, such as, but not limited to, athletic competitions, dances, or weddings, is prohibited after 10:00 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and after midnight on Friday, Saturday and the day before a holiday.

Construction Work. Any mechanical or construction noise before 7:00 a.m. or after 9:00 p.m. on weekdays, or before 8:00 a.m. or after 9:00 p.m. on Saturdays, Sundays or holidays.

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Citation to Accompany Meritorious Service Medal

In June of 2004, Mark Hawley graduated from the Fife Police Department Basic Reserve Law Enforcement Academy. After completing his Field Training Program, he earned his solo qualification in 2006. This means Mark has been able to patrol in his own marked unit and respond to calls for service the same as a full-time officer.

Reserve Officer Hawley has provided thousands of hours of Law Enforcement service to the City of Normandy Park. This is on top of his regular employment. Mark has done everything from assisting as a second unit on patrol to assisting Officers on multiple search warrants.

Many times, Mark would check the schedule to see which days full-time Officers were working by themselves and come in specifically to increase staffing on those days. Until you have worked a twelve hour shift by yourself, you cannot express how much this assistance is appreciated.

One of Reserve Officer Hawley's most impressive cases was a contact he made at the Normandy Park Towne Center. During the investigation a handgun was seized along with a large amount of narcotics. The subject in this case was convicted of weapon possession in King County Juvenile Court. Mark's investigation was exceptional from start to finish. This was also one of the longest trials that I personally have been involved in and Mark's testimony most certainly led to the conviction.

July 29th was Mark's last day with the Police Department. Mark is leaving to focus on his family and employment with the King County Sheriff's Office, as their Lead Marshal in the Court system. Mark is retiring as our most senior Reserve Police Officer, and also one of the longest tenures in the history of our Reserve Police Force. His Police family will miss his contribution to the department. His sacrifice and dedication to the citizens and visitors of Normandy Park for the last ten years has been tremendous. I was pleased to award Reserve Police Officer Mark Hawley with this Meritorious Service Medal.



Chief Gaddis is shown presenting Reserve Officer Hawley with his medal.

Mark Hawley's Letter to the City

Ten years ago this month I became a Reserve Law Enforcement Officer with the Normandy Park Police Department! I joined a family that transcends a normal working career. I have met friends and made memories that will be with me for the rest of my days. The accompanying picture was taken when Officer Brian Norris and I graduated from the 2004 Fife Reserve Police Academy. I have a lot of great memories working for this police department. I have learned a lot and the experiences helped lay the groundwork for my current job as a Marshal with the King County Sheriff's Department. The officers who work at Normandy Park are second to none.



With true sadness in my heart, I am walking away from a department that has meant so much to me. It's time to turn the page and move on to other things. The annual staff meeting on July 29th was my last day with the Department. By the time you read this story, I will have moved on. Thank you to everyone who has helped me along the way. Protecting the citizens and visitors of Normandy Park has truly been a blessing.

*Mark Hawley
Lead Marshal, King County Sheriff's Department*



BACK TO SCHOOL

The children of Normandy Park will soon be counting down the last days of Summer vacation. We want to remind citizens and visitors to be extra careful around the days leading up to and including the first days of school. Excitement has a way of keeping people's attention focused on only one thing at a time. In our line of work, it is called tunnel vision. Tunnel vision can keep a small child from properly checking both ways before crossing the street. It can also cause a parent, dropping their kid off to school for the first time, to drive just a little too fast.



Reserve Officers Miko Tempski and Kyle McBride are sworn in as new Reserves in front of the City Council.

3rd Annual All-Staff Meeting

On July 29th, the Police Department held its 3rd Annual All-Staff Meeting at Century Link Field. The agenda included legal updates, annual certification updates and some team building exercises as well as updating our Department photo. The Port of Seattle Police Department covered the streets of Normandy Park before, during and after the training at no cost to the citizens of Normandy Park. Our Police Department reception window closed that day as Jean Lindsey and Colin Thorpe attended the training.



AMENITIES

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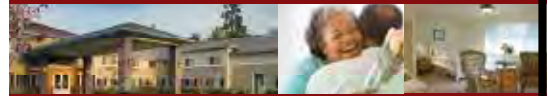
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MOUNT RAINIER POOL— Des Moines Pool Metropolitan Park District

By Gene Achziger, Commissioner

WHETHER IT'S TO COMBAT CHILDHOOD obesity or preserve mobility amongst senior citizens, the mantra at Mount Rainier Pool is the same: Jump in!

The most effective form of exercise for young and old alike is water-based. Water is a great equalizer for young people, whatever their athletic ability. And for seniors, their buoyancy takes the stress off joints and allows them to exercise with less pain. Studies show that exercise is key to seniors aging gracefully.

So it is with those thoughts in mind that we approach September 15th and the beginning of the one-year countdown to the 40th anniversary of Mount Rainier Pool.

Built by King County as part of the 1968 Forward Thrust bond issue, the pool was saved from demolition by concerned citizens of Normandy Park and Des Moines in 2009 with the passage of two propositions to create metropolitan park districts dedicated to assuring that aquatics would always be a part of their communities.

Although actual operation of the pool is the responsibility of the Des Moines Pool Metropolitan Park District, the citizens of Normandy Park realized the value of having a year-round swimming facility and currently provide support to keeping Mount Rainier Pool open.

Local residents know that water safety is particularly important since both cities have extensive shorelines along Puget

Sound. But more than simply inoculating for water's hazards, local residents see the opportunity of using aquatics to enhance their lives.

Hundreds of kids each summer learn to swim through lessons at outdoor pools such as Normandy Park Swim Club and Olympic View. But then fall comes, outdoor pools close and swimming generally ceases...except at Mount Rainier Pool where it is summer year-round.

The improved bright lights and temperature controls enable patrons to continue their aquatic regimens in comfort, no matter how nasty the weather gets. And local youngsters can continue participating in competitive swimming either through high school programs or club sports.

Each year the boys and girls swim teams at Mount Rainier High School are well represented at the state competitions—a tribute to the emphasis the citizens of Normandy Park and Des Moines place on aquatic abilities.

The focus of the Des Moines Pool Metropolitan Park District commissioners is evolving from their initial efforts to establish the district and improve the facility to expanding Mount Rainier's programming to better serve the aquatic needs of the community.

Look for exciting new events this fall such as the Pumpkin Plunge and the return of regular Middle School Nights—programs that enable the communities' youth to participate in safe and supervised activities. Look also for greater efforts to help the communities' elderly remain active well into their twilights.

The district commissioners don't believe in operating in a vacuum and will also begin surveying the community to hear what local stakeholders want to see happen at the pool.

In September 2015, Mount Rainier Pool will not only be celebrating its 40th birthday it will also be celebrating the remarkable cooperation of two cities that came together to preserve the dream of two generations that aquatics be at the heart and soul of their communities.

Come on: Jump in!



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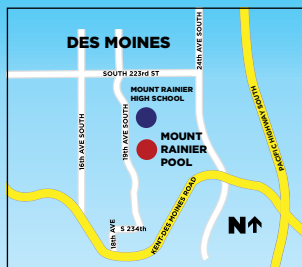
Children less than 48 inches tall must be accompanied by an adult in the pool or may pick a pumpkin from the water's edge



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FALL/WINTER 2014-2015 SCHEDULE (begins Sept. 1)

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
5:30 - 7:30 am	Available for rentals	Lap Swim		Lap Swim		Lap Swim	Mount Rainier High School/King Aquatics swim teams
7:30 - 8:30 am		Pool Maintenance	Pool Maintenance	Pool Maintenance	Pool Maintenance	Pool Maintenance	
8:30 - 9:30 am		Shallow Water Ex/Lap Swim	Shallow Water Ex/Lap Swim	Shallow Water Ex/Lap Swim	Shallow Water Ex/Lap Swim	Shallow Water Ex/Lap Swim	
11 am - 1 pm		Lap/Family swims	Lap/Family swims	Lap/Family swims	Lap/Family swims	Lap/Family swims	Lap Swim 12-1 pm
1 - 2:30 pm		Lessons	Lessons	Lessons	Lessons	Lessons	
2:30 - 5:30 pm		Mount Rainier/King Aquatics swim teams	Mount Rainier/King Aquatics swim teams	Mount Rainier/King Aquatics swim teams	Mount Rainier/King Aquatics swim teams	Mount Rainier/King Aquatics swim teams	Public Swim 1-2 pm
5:30 - 7 pm		Swim Lessons & King Aquatics	Swim Lessons & King Aquatics	Swim Lessons & King Aquatics	Swim Lessons & King Aquatics	Family Swim 6 - 7 pm	*1 Public Swim (First Saturday only) 2-3 pm
7 - 8 pm		Public Swim	Water Exercise	Public Swim	Water Exercise	Public Swim	Available for rental 2 (3) -10 pm
8 - 9 pm		Lap Swim/Exercise		Lap Swim/Exercise		Lap Swim	

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Des Moines/Normandy Park Activity Center specializes in creating a sense of community for older adults in the communities of Des Moines and Normandy Park by collaborating with community partners to provide programs and services that enhance the experience of being an older adult as well as to meet successful aging tactics: maintaining physical and mental well-being, building and maintaining relationships and participating in life-enriching programs.



**Enrollment for fall classes and trips
is slated to begin August 20, 2014.**

FITNESS

Check out the new dates for our popular fitness and movement classes:

- **Enhance Fitness** – This award winning program features fun, dynamic cardiovascular exercises, strength training and focus on balance and stretching.
- **Energy Yoga** – Learn to release stress and re-direct your energy.
- **Kigong** – Regain energy and a sense of personal power!
- **Dance for Parkinson's** – Designed for individuals with movement disorders
- **Line Dancing** – a blend of fun & movement while learning old and new dances

CREATIVE

Get creative and explore these new classes:

- **Watercolor Workshop**
- **Tai Chi:** Moving for Better Balance

TRIPS

Trip out with us and enjoy a day-trips around the sound, play golf, tour northwest gardens or enjoy a culinary adventure! The list of outings will be available August 20th on the City of Des Moines and Normandy Park websites! www.normandyparkwa.gov and www.desmoineswa.gov

SUPPORT OUR PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Two annual events generate revenue support for programs and services that benefit older adults:

Spaghetti Night 2014 – Friday, October 3, 2014 sponsored by Normandy Park Senior Living
Fall Raffle 2014 – Sunday, August 17, 2014, Marvista Park featuring a framed, limited edition print by Normandy Park Artist, Nancy Bogni.

ENJOY A DINING EXPERIENCE AT DES MOINES ACTIVITY CENTER

Monday-Thursday 12pm
\$3/ Suggested donation age 60 & better
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GAIN A SENSE OF COMMUNITY, BUILD AND MAINTAIN RELATIONSHIPS

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VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Give back to the community by lending a hand, and you'll feel good too! The Hyde Shuttle, managed by Senior Services, provides seniors and residents with disabilities safe and reliable transportation for needed socialization, errands, appointments and recreational activities. Clients describe the program as a "lifeline" for maintaining their independence. Caring and volunteers are urgently needed to drive agency vans in Normandy Park, Des Moines and Burien. Drivers receive free training in defensive driving and passenger assistance, and no special license needed! Contact Hilary at hilaryc@seniorservices.org or learn more by visiting www.seniorservices.org/transportation. Be a part of helping your community members "get on the road" to fuller and healthier lives!

**Des Moines/
Normandy Park Activity Center**
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Monday-Friday: 9am-4pm

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Proceeds of Zombie Fest will benefit:
Highline Schools Foundation, Highline Food Bank, Des Moines Food Bank and Friends of Normandy Park (501c3 nonprofit designation July 2014).

Sept. 27, 2014 • 4pm - 8pm
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Shorebrook Troll! >>

By Amber Nichol, Arts Commission Vice-Chair

HAVE YOU EVER BEEN ON SHOREBROOK DRIVE and thought you saw a large troll eyeing the street? Maybe it was out of the corner of your eye as you drove by and you had to question what it was that you saw, or maybe as you walked by, dinner plate size eyes followed you as you made your way past the hillside. Whatever the case may be, you aren't seeing things, indeed there is a big troll peeking at the street from the hillside in the back yard of Normandy Park artists Tanya and Dano Lorella. I had the opportunity to speak a bit with Tanya about the troll, who is known as "Norm" (short for Normandy Park!) and she was happy to share the story of this cool and extremely large piece of art with me.

After moving into their home in Normandy Park a couple of years ago, Dano and Tanya decided to clean up the back hillside of their property. Underneath all of the ivy and blackberries, they discovered all kinds of cement hunks, and rather than transport it all to the landfill, they decided to repurpose it. After inspiration on Pinterest and researching a 'secret garden' in the United Kingdom called Heligan (www.heligan.com), plans were made! Cement was purchased, and after hand mixing 30 plus bags, Norm was born!

Norm's grassy headed visage has attracted Troll lovers from the pacific northwest, from a photo op with a local woman's collection of troll dolls, to his family relationship with his cousin who lives under the Fremont Bridge in Seattle. People stop in and take photos all of the time.

Thank you to Tanya and Dano Lorella for bringing such a unique work of art to our community of Normandy Park!



Members of Girl Scout Troop 45200 earn their "friendly and helpful" badge cleaning debris at Marvista Park

Having Fun and Giving Back

The Girl Scouts of Western Washington Daisy troop 45200 has set high goals this year: giving back to their community, being kind to others and most importantly having fun. On July 4th, the 7 and 8 year old girls set out to have some fun by joining in on the parade from Marvista Elementary to the Cove. The girls enjoyed throwing candy on the parade route from an old classic tow truck owned by a Normandy Park neighbor. When asked what her favorite part of the parade was the nearly 8 year-old Josephine Lloyd said, "I liked throwing candy. I liked that no one had to walk and that everyone had fun."

Being a girl scout clearly has its advantages but it's also hard work. The following day, July 5th, the troop set out to do some community work by helping clean up wayward 4th of July debris at local Marvista Park. It was a busy couple of hours of work picking up garbage at the park, but the girls earned the "friendly and helpful" petal for their uniform.

"The cleanup day was awesome too because I learned about littering," said Lloyd. The troop, who met in Kindergarten at Marvista Elementary School, plans to bridge to Brownies later this summer before they enter second grade.



Deschner Memorial Dedicated

By Ron Ebbers, Park Commissioner

The sun shone brightly on June 7th when approximately 50 people came to honor Tom Deschner and wife Laura with a dedication of a memorial garden and plaque at Marine View Park. Son Whit and daughter Marquita were on hand (see photo) to unveil the marker that was purchased with donations from a number of residents and friends. Several friends spoke fondly about Tom and his tenacious commitment to seeing Marine View Park opened up for more public use. The Park Commission was on hand to provide refreshments and spruce tree seedlings as a take-away memento. Next time when you're heading west from the parking lot down the "Valley Loop Trail," just past the picnic table, take a look at the memorial garden. May his stewardship and vision encourage us in our endeavors to preserve and enhance the park system here in our wonderful city...and be sure to let the Park Commission know what you think. We meet the third Wednesday of every month, 7 p.m. at City Hall. We look forward to meeting you!

Left: Whit Deschner and Marquita Green (son and daughter) of Tom Deschner.



With summer well underway, you've probably heard music in the air coming from Marvista Park on Sunday afternoons at 5 p.m. It's not too late to join your neighbors for the remaining acts that the Arts Commission has lined up for the 2014 Music in the Park Concert Series!

August 3rd Enjoy cool jazz for a hot summer day with **Scott Lindenmuth**.

August 10th We will be presenting Greenspace Theatre's Shakespeare in the Park for a performance of Love's Labour's Lost. This performance was entirely crowd-funded by the citizens of Normandy Park, spearheaded by Dan Hammer. This will be our first Shakespeare in the Park and we couldn't be more thrilled about it.

August 17th A very special day for Music in the Park, as we are presenting a day long **Celtic Music Festival!** This event starts at 1:30 p.m. and goes till 6:30 p.m. You'll be treated to several different bands, dancers, pipers, vendors, food and a beer garden! Come and celebrate Celtic culture, get your face painted, and enjoy this daylong festival. Special thanks to Mike White and Thistle Productions.

August 24th It's all about kids! **Eli Rosenblatt and Eric Ode** will begin this fun filled adventure, and Normandy Park's own Melanie's Dance Unlimited will bring local student and pro artists to the stage!

Thank you to the City of Normandy Park staff and all of our sponsors: 4-culture, King County Library System, Normandy Park Market, Powell Homes, Normandy Park Coffee, Mick Kelly's Irish Pub, Normandy Park Family Dentistry, Starbucks Coffee, John Knox Church, Republic Services, and to everyone else who makes this event happen for our community.

The full line up for Music in the Park can be found on the city's website, www.normandyparkwa.gov.

Normandy Park Community Club (the Cove) Events Open to the Public:

Visit www.npcove.org closer to event date for start times.

October 25: Adult Halloween Costume Party
Dress up and come enjoy DJ dance music, photo booth, appetizers, and non-alcoholic beverages. BYOB. \$20 per ticket.
October 26: Kid's Halloween Party (3rd grade and under)
Lots of activities, games, prizes, snacks and drinks. FREE.

Raffle to Benefit Des Moines/ Normandy Park Activity Center

Nancy Bogni, Normandy Park artist, shows off her award winning, limited edition print Work Horse.

Des Moines/Normandy Park Activity Center will be selling raffle tickets for this print during the Celtic Music Festival on Sunday, August 17th at Marvista Park. Proceeds from the raffle will benefit programs and services for older adults in the communities of Normandy Park and Des Moines. Raffle Tickets are \$1.



September 13, 2014

This benefit ride for the American Lung Association is perfect as a personal challenge or to ride together with friends, family or co-workers. 92, 73 & 38-mile routes available!



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www.ridearoundthesound.org



Spaghetti Night

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Adults: \$10, Children: \$5

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Arts Festival—Diverse and Fresh

by Amber Nichol, Arts Festival Chair

The 14th Annual Normandy Park Arts Festival that happened on June 7th and 8th showcased a vast array of artists from Normandy Park and our neighboring communities. With over 200 pieces of individual and original artwork that ranged from paintings to shadowboxes, to a one of a kind haute couture gown made of PVC and a little computer to control lights sewn into it, our show was diverse and fresh!

The gym was the perfect set up for our vendor area, and the performance stage was packed both days with unique and exciting performers. Violin and accordion duo doing Pink Floyd, colorful folk music, classical harp, smooth jazz, and Native American spoken word filled the weekend with something different for everyone to enjoy.

The art table in the hallway was set up for children to do painting and mask decorating, but it seemed to attract as many grown-ups as children and everyone walked away with a beautiful creation to take home! Thank you so much to Debbie Street for the generous donation of canvases.

Thank you to the families of Charlie Sorensen and Lee Paasch who made memorials in their name so special. Thank you to all of the artists and arts supporters in our community who came out and took part in this fabulous event.

Thank you to the city of Normandy Park and to the staff who all put in so much work to make this event amazing.





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December 7th - Santa Party

For information

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www.npcove.org





Photo credit: Mel Ponder

Building for Tomorrow: Bond Measure Slated for November 4 Ballot

By Tove Tupper
Web and Social Media Manager

Our community is facing a big challenge: we want students to get a first-class education. But many of our schools have far outlived their lifespan. The facilities are deteriorating and have obsolete infrastructure that can't handle today's technology. And we are running out of space for a rapidly growing student population.

This fall, the community will have the opportunity to invest in safe, healthy, and modern school buildings for all Highline students. The Highline School Board will put a school construction bond measure on the November 4, 2014 ballot.

If passed, the bond measure would build and repair schools across the district, focusing on the most critical needs:

- Rebuild 91-year old Highline High School
- Replace 89-year-old Des Moines Elementary School
- Construct two new middle schools
- Make critical improvements to Tye and Evergreen campuses
- Provide new learning technology, safety upgrades, infrastructure repairs (e.g., roofing, heating, plumbing, electrical), and facility improvements for arts education

The bond affects schools across our school district. All Highline students will see benefits.

"While we have been able to maintain schools far beyond their expected lifespan, new investment now is critical," said Superintendent Susan Enfield. "Constant maintenance and repair



has become much more expensive and less cost-effective, draining money from classrooms."

The older buildings do not have the electrical capacity to support the educational technology our students need to be prepared for the workplace of tomorrow.

Projections show more than 2,000 additional students will enter Highline schools over the next 8 to 10 years. The bond would add classrooms, providing space to lower class sizes in grades K through 3.

Without additional classrooms, class sizes will get larger instead of smaller, and the district would likely have to forfeit up to \$2.2 million a year in extra state funding targeted for lowering class size. In a few years, schools could be faced with double shifting to create space for growing numbers of students.

The bond would raise \$385 million for capital improvements like school repair and construction. The amount per homeowner would be an annual rate of \$1.12 per \$1,000 of property valuation.

With bonds passed in 2002 and 2006, Highline established a strong track record of completing school bond projects on time and on budget.

The bond measure was developed following a communitywide survey and five community meetings to explore possible solutions to address deteriorating and crowded schools.

Ballots will be mailed to voters in October and must be returned by November 4. Sixty percent of voters must approve the bond for passage.



Translation: Seriously I'm shaking my head!!!

Strong Language

By George Buley

There are many residents of our city who have earned the status of senior citizens. Most are very actively involved in the community and with their families. One challenge for seniors is keeping current with the “language” of their grandchildren. Texting is now ubiquitous—here, there, and everywhere.

Recently, I asked our granddaughter where I could find what all the acronyms mean. I thought there might be two or three hundred. She directed me to the internet. To my amazement there are endless lists—well over a thousand acronyms. So I have concluded I will be happy to stick to the few I know and guess at the rest. It would probably be easier to take a course in French.

Every generation generates its own special vocabulary. It just seems the current generation delights in evermore imaginative ways to communicate. I still believe talking (by voice) is the best way to establish personal relationships. However, I must admit I am now learning to use my new iPad. It is a new world!

Changes to our language are constant and are usually constructive. So we should look at change as creative and energizing. Communication is so critical in our world today that we need to welcome “selfie,” “FaceTime,” “hashtag,” and “SnapChat,” et al.

English is the second language of most countries. This is a testament to our technical developments, as well as our willingness to relate to everyone. Diversity is one of our strengths and is necessary to keep us an international leader.

So let's hear it for our strong language.



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SMALL COMMUNITY – BIG CELEBRATION

4th of July at Normandy Park

By Andy Batcho

Normandy Park may not be the largest community in Washington State, but that hasn't prevented us from putting on a HUGE 4th of July Community Celebration for the past 25-years. In fact, during the 1950's the first Normandy Park parade to celebrate the opening of the Cove building included horses! July 4, 2014 was no exception as over 2000 Normandy Park residents, families and friends came out to celebrate America's Independence Day.

This year's event, jointly sponsored by the City of Normandy Park and the Normandy Park Community Club, began at 10:25 a.m. with a 2.8K Fun Run down the flag-lined route from Marvista School to the Normandy Park Cove followed by a children's parade including elaborately decorated bikes and wagons. The parade was lead by this year's Grand Marshal, Chuck Schuh and his wife Lailani. Chuck was selected as the Grand Marshal due to his years of volunteer service to the community.

Following the Grand Marshal's car were police cars, fire trucks, classic cars, floats, bicycles, wagons, strollers, and hundreds of parade participants walking the route. To the great excitement of the kids, the Grand Marshal tossed handfuls of candy to the children all along the route.

The parade ended at the Cove where the Normandy Park Arts Commission had the daunting task of awarding prizes to the best decorated 4th of July theme bicycles. Meanwhile, over 50 classic cars assembled for display on the Cove lawn and the parade participants enjoyed 2000 free hot dogs, 140 pounds of popcorn, slushies, 1800 ice cream bars, face painting, balloon animals, patriotic music, singing the National Anthem, a beautiful day and a sense of Community.

This year's event also included the opportunity to send a flag-themed postcard to U.S. military men and women thanking them for their service that provide all of us the freedoms to celebrate this wonderful day. Normandy Park may be a small community, but we certainly have HUGE spirit when it comes to celebrating our nation's birthday!



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Margaret L. Larson, MSN, ARNP, NP-C grew up in Normandy Park and now has returned to live closer to her practice. She had been practicing with her father, Roger K Larson, MD for six years in Burien before he retired two years ago. Family and community are very important to her as reflected in her unique family practice approach to prevention, lifelong wellness and optimal health for individuals and families. Margaret is an active contributor to the Hospitality House Shelter for Women in Burien and Hope Medical Clinic in Uganda.



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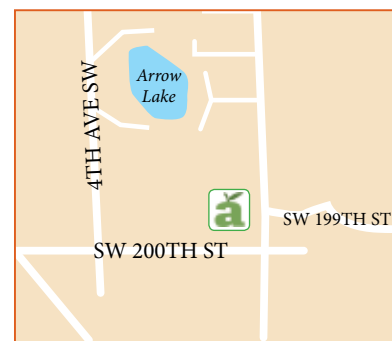
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